



SWAMPSCOTT

Essex County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

Swampscott is a small picturesque seaside community north of Boston. It is home to many Boston commuters, a large number of whom board the Boston bound train each morning from one of the last remaining Victorian-style railroad depots in the country. Many other interesting buildings of historical value are situated in the town, including Marian Court, formerly known as White Court, the summer residence of President Calvin A. Coolidge and the Georgian Revival-style building that now serves as the Town Hall, which was the former residence of Professor Elihu Thompson, founder of the General Electric Company.

Swampscott's beaches, with their refreshing ocean breezes, attract visitors of all ages during the hot summer months. Fisherman's Beach provides a pleasant view of Swampscott Harbor with its many brightly colored fishing and pleasure vessels. Swampscott's contributions to the fishing industry are the inventions of the Swampscott Dory and the lobster pot; both used by fishermen world-wide.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Eastern Massachusetts, bordered by Lynn on the west, Salem and Marblehead on the north, and the Atlantic Ocean on the east and south. Swampscott is about 4 miles south of Salem, 13 miles north of Boston, and 230 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 6.74 sq. miles

Land Area: 3.05 sq. miles

Population: 13,650

Density: 4,475 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Middleton Station)

Normal temperature in January.....25.8°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.6°F

Normal annual precipitation.....43.6"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Lynn, Marblehead South

Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (781) 596-8856

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Administrative Assistant

Representative Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1852

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	9,254		
Democrats	2,693	29.1	%
Republicans	984	10.6	%
Other parties	1	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	5,576	60.3	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Swampscott town, Essex County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	14,412	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	14,412	100.0
Male.....	6,685	46.4	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	183	1.3
Female.....	7,727	53.6	Mexican.....	26	0.2
Under 5 years.....	920	6.4	Puerto Rican.....	32	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	976	6.8	Cuban.....	7	-
10 to 14 years.....	987	6.8	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	118	0.8
15 to 19 years.....	799	5.5	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	14,229	98.7
20 to 24 years.....	423	2.9	White alone.....	13,916	96.6
25 to 34 years.....	1,470	10.2	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	2,542	17.6	Total population.....	14,412	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	2,347	16.3	In households.....	14,163	98.3
55 to 59 years.....	789	5.5	Householder.....	5,719	39.7
60 to 64 years.....	610	4.2	Spouse.....	3,328	23.1
65 to 74 years.....	1,066	7.4	Child.....	4,259	29.6
75 to 84 years.....	973	6.8	Own child under 18 years.....	3,324	23.1
85 years and over.....	510	3.5	Other relatives.....	398	2.8
Median age (years).....	41.5	(X)	Under 18 years.....	95	0.7
18 years and over.....	10,959	76.0	Nonrelatives.....	459	3.2
Male.....	4,947	34.3	Unmarried partner.....	177	1.2
Female.....	6,012	41.7	In group quarters.....	249	1.7
21 years and over.....	10,651	73.9	Institutionalized population.....	240	1.7
62 years and over.....	2,908	20.2	Noninstitutionalized population.....	9	0.1
65 years and over.....	2,549	17.7	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	981	6.8	Total households.....	5,719	100.0
Female.....	1,568	10.9	Family households (families).....	3,989	69.7
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	1,906	33.3
One race.....	14,304	99.3	Married-couple family.....	3,328	58.2
White.....	14,047	97.5	With own children under 18 years.....	1,586	27.7
Black or African American.....	106	0.7	Female householder, no husband present.....	516	9.0
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	9	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	267	4.7
Asian.....	98	0.7	Nonfamily households.....	1,730	30.3
Asian Indian.....	15	0.1	Householder living alone.....	1,484	25.9
Chinese.....	31	0.2	Householder 65 years and over.....	775	13.6
Filipino.....	9	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	1,981	34.6
Japanese.....	16	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	1,718	30.0
Korean.....	7	-	Average household size.....	2.48	(X)
Vietnamese.....	15	0.1	Average family size.....	3.00	(X)
Other Asian ¹	5	-	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	3	-	Total housing units.....	5,930	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	1	-	Occupied housing units.....	5,719	96.4
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	211	3.6
Samoa.....	1	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	1	-	occasional use.....	126	2.1
Some other race.....	41	0.3	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.3	(X)
Two or more races.....	108	0.7	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.3	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: ³			Occupied housing units.....	5,719	100.0
White.....	14,145	98.1	Owner-occupied housing units.....	4,377	76.5
Black or African American.....	141	1.0	Renter-occupied housing units.....	1,342	23.5
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	18	0.1	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.64	(X)
Asian.....	141	1.0	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.94	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	10	0.1			
Some other race.....	72	0.5			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 128

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 3

Federal (Section 8): 0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Swampscott is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Route 1A and State Route 114, which runs N.W.-S.E. from Lawrence to the coast.

Rail

Commuter rail service is available from Swampscott to North Station, Boston. Travel time: 25-27 minutes; 131 MBTA parking spaces. The MBTA Blue Line is accessible from Wonderland Station in Revere. Travel time to Government Center: 17 min.; 1,223 MBTA parking spaces. Freight rail service is available from the Springfield Terminal Railway. Contact number: (508) 663-1073

Bus

Swampscott is a member of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), which offers fixed route service to Salem, Marblehead, Lynn and Boston. The MBTA also provides THE RIDE, a paratransit service for the elderly and disabled.

Other

Easily accessible from Swampscott are Logan International Airport and Beverly Municipal Airport in nearby Beverly. Located 3 mi. NW of Beverly Center, the Beverly Municipal Airport is a Reliever (RL) facility with 3 asphalt runways 3,500'; 4,634'; and 5,001' long. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Atlantic 1

Burrill Street

(781) 581-5833

Swampscott Historical Society

99 Paradise Road

(781) 598-4363

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

Jewish Rehab. Center For The Aged

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.